

# Structural Timber Association

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## Update on Building Safety

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Chief Executive



**45 Years**

**5 Months**

**23 days**

# Huge Subject!

- Building Safety Act
  - Royal Assent on 28 April 2022
  - Gradual implementation over past 2 years
    - Large tranche of Statutory Instruments came into effect this month

# Building Safety CV

- Director of CICAIR (Approved Inspector Register)
- Co-founded Building Control Performance Standards Group
- Member of DLUHC (post-Grenfell) Industry Response Group
- Chair of Competence Steering Group (incl Hackitt Review) 2017-2023
- Co-lead, Construction Leadership Council Building Safety Workstream
- Director, Building A Safer Future Ltd (and Considerate Constructors Scheme)
- Member, Fire Sector Federation Fire Safety Strategy Group
- Chair, Building Safety Competence Foundation
- Trustee, Building Safety Alliance
- Chair, CLC RAAC Response Group

# My areas of involvement

- Competence
- Building Control

# Some other issues

- New Regulators
- Protecting leaseholders
- Golden Thread
- Dutyholders
- Accountable Persons
- Second Staircases

## *Competence Steering Group*

### *Three reports:*

- *Raising the Bar*
- *Setting the Bar*
- *A Higher Bar*

# SELECTIVE TIMELINE OF CSG AND RELATED BUILDING SAFETY ACTIVITIES





# Competence Steering Group

- “Steering Group on Competence for Building a Safer Future”
- Originally formed in July 2017 as a sub-group of the DLUHC (post-Grenfell) Industry Response Group
- Became the Competence working group for the *Hackitt Review*
- Reformed in May 2018 to implement *Building A Safer Future* proposals (day before report was published)
- Engages around 400 people and 150+ organisations from:
  - Fire Safety
  - Construction and Built Environment
  - Owners and Managers
- £13m+ resource contributed from industry
- 67 meetings of the CSG between May '18 and December '23
- Several hundred meetings of 12 working groups plus various T&F groups

# Working Groups

**WG1 – Engineers**

WG2 – Installers

**WG3 – Fire Engineers**

WG4 – Fire Risk Assessors

WG5 – Fire & Rescue  
Services

**WG6 – Building Control**

**WG7 – Designers**

**WG8 – “Building Safety  
Managers”**

**WG9 – Site Supervisors**

**WG10 – Project Managers**

**WG11 – Procurement**

WG12 – Products

Steering Group on Competence  
for Building a Safer Future

**RAISING THE BAR**  
INTERIM REPORT

Improving Competence  
Building a Safer Future



# SETTING THE BAR

A NEW COMPETENCE  
REGIME FOR BUILDING  
A SAFER FUTURE

# Achievements

- Statutory **Industry Competence Committee** now established in the Building Safety Regulator
- WG0 led to a **National suite of competence standards** through BSI Flex 8670 and transition to a full British Standard.
- **PAS standards** for the **three regulated roles** (PC, PD and ***BSM***) now published as PAS 8671, PAS 8672 and PAS 8673
- Approvement in principle for **further PAS Standards (Construction Products and Fire Risk Assessors)**
- The BSA is about to publish **BSAS 01:2023 Organisation Capability Management System Standard** – Managing Competence (to be taken up by BSI for development as a PAS alongside the existing series)
- **Framework of Competence Standards** providing specific requirements for individual disciplines
- Arrangements for **independent assessment and reassessment** against the competence standards
- Establishment of the **Building Safety Alliance**
- **Development of Safety Case/Safety Management Systems**

# Common themes from Working Groups

- Underpinned by Standards: Three of the WGs already have PASs in place and another two have permission to develop PASs with a further proposal in the pipeline
- All WGs have developed complete or partial competency frameworks
- Publication of c30 guides and key information
- Progress slowed by time constraints on volunteer input
- Need for more awareness of competence requirements in every sector
- Lack of legislative clarity
- Need for more collaborative approaches
- Gaps and duplications between WGs to be explored
- New sectors to be investigated

# A HIGHER BAR



Published on 29 January 2024

Copies available to order  
from

[www.cic.org.uk](http://www.cic.org.uk)

# Future

- CSG has become the **Industry Competence Steering Group (ICSG)**
- Secretariat transferred from the Construction Industry Council (CIC) to the Building Safety Regulator (BSR) as a sub-set of the Industry Competence Committee
- Working Groups to continue to function where appropriate and to be managed by the industry
- Hanna Clarke (CPA) and Gill Hancock (APM) are the new chair and deputy chair

# Building Control

- Regime change on 6 April 2024
- CICAIR ceased to function on 31 March
- Transitional arrangements for AIs for a further 6 months (overseen by the HSE)
- New Registers for Building Control Approvers and Building Inspectors opened on 5 April

<https://www.find-a-building-control-approver.service.gov.uk/public-register-england>

<https://www.find-a-building-control-approver.service.gov.uk/public-register-wales>

<https://www.register-building-inspector.service.gov.uk/public-register-england>

<https://www.register-building-inspector.service.gov.uk/public-register-wales>



# Some residual Issues

- Capacity
  - Registered Building Control Approvers
  - Building Inspectors
    - LABC letter
- Economic
  - NHBC warranty registrations for HRBs
  - Second Means of Escape (guidance published on Good Friday)
- Unfinished Business
- Terminology
  - Differences between Principal Designer roles

# Thank you!

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